



“  
Wishing you a  
Merry Christmas filled  
with good times and  
even better wine.”

## Musings

By Marston Watson

**M**arston is following his success with the publication of five family history books to date with a sixth volume on the *Lea/Lee Family of Manchester, Massachusetts*, which he hopes to complete in the first quarter of 2023. This family is not connected to the well-known Lee family of Virginia, as recent *dna* results have revealed.

**Marston and Kathy**, along with his daughter **Karen**, son **Erik** and family members, traveled to Columbus, Ohio in March. They witnessed spectacular performances of the Ohio State University national collegiate synchronized championship competition. Senior **Haley Watson** displayed



a remarkable single leg kick on top of a triple stack of three swimmers. Haley graduated with honors in May, which she says has ended her twelve-year athletic performances in this sport. She has good-paying job in the insurance industry.

**Erik** began his new job on December 12 as Vice President of *Lightspin*, a contextualized cloud security company. It is an agentless graph-based technology, which immediately visualizes, prioritizes, and dynamically remediates critical cloud risks with no custom configuration. We old folks have no idea what they are talking about.

Two Watson family issues have put some travel limitations in their lives. Marston has been dealing with a painful torn meniscus of the left knee for some time which his orthopedic surgeon revealed has deteriorated rapidly since April. A knee replacement is now scheduled for February 10.

An unfortunate engine malfunction of their 2015 Chrysler 200C sedan left **Marston and Kathy** with a choice to replace the engine for \$13,000 (*ouch!*) or sell their vehicle at an automobile auction facility. It made sense to do just that, which leaves them with no vehicle at this time. The good news is that they are saving some \$400-\$500 a month. Fortunately, they qualified for two Bay Area paratransit services which takes them to medical appointments, grocery shopping and unlimited destinations in the area at a nominal cost.

## 2022 Freedom to Travel!

By Kathy Watson

**2**022 dawned with ideas of seeing new places and having new experiences coming out of the pandemic restrictions. Out of the shoot was a trip to Kissimmee, Florida with friends **David** and **Stephanie Hockensmith**. A highlight of the trip was a visit to the Kennedy Space Center. I downloaded an app while there which allows me to see the launch schedule of all flights into space.

In February was a trip to Tulsa Oklahoma for the Sovereign Military Order Temple of Jerusalem (SMOTJ) Executive Committee meeting which just happened to coincide with my 76th birthday. We were house guests of **Barbara & Bill Kogerman**,



who have now made Tulsa their home. I had a special birthday party at The Summit Club surrounded by close friends. Just have to mention the top floor bathroom with floor to ceiling glass windows which looks out over downtown Tulsa.

Colonial Dames of the XVII Century held their Annual Conference in Irvine, California in March. As State Registrar, I attended the event and roomed again with my

Chapter President **Eunice Brabec**. The Anne Bradstreet Chapter holds five meetings a year in San Francisco.

The National Society of Colonial Dames in America in California held their Annual Meeting in Santa Barbara in April. As a relatively new member, I met several cousins of **Stephen Hopkins** who is my Mayflower (and Jamestowne Society) qualifying ancestor.

In the fall, was a trip to attend the Grand Convent in Long Beach. **Marston** was not able to make the trip, however, he was recognized at the event as Deputy Grand Prior Emeritus for his eight years service in that capacity. 2023 will be my last year serving as Grand Inspector-one more round of Annual Reports to process this coming January!

Then in November, I went to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina as the officiant for the Priory of St. Vincent Convent & Investiture. This was my first time to visit and the Priory treated me to a walk on the beach, a helicopter ride and visits to two local historical venues. I enjoyed the venue and environs so much, I'm going back at the end of January!

The final trip of the year was to Las Vegas for some fun with my Mahjongg players. The intent was to have three full days of playing my favorite pastime. So much for intentions as we learned how to play Pai Gow poker from KC who loves to gamble. Suffice it to say "*what happened in Vegas, stayed in Vegas.*"

## Michael is Engaged!

By Kathy Watson

Grandson **Michael Amador** proposed to **Dani O'Keefe** at Jack London Square on New Year's Eve 2021. The date has been set for August 5, 2023; we have the date saved for this very special occasion. It will be an opportunity to revisit Whidbey Island as they have chosen to get married where



the **Amadors** have a second home. The island is where they spend vacations and long weekends. **Dani** and **Michael** are making their home in Berkeley while they forge ahead planning for their big day.

## Acting Bug Strikes

By Kathy Watson

What a treat we had to see Granddaughter **Sophia Amador** portray Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie in *Steel Magnolias*. She was selected for the part by Pittsburg Theater Company and loved every minute of preparation for the show in September. We saw the performance on October 2 which was the final show. We are bustin' buttons proud of Sophia's acting abilities!



## This-an-That

By Kathy Watson

Grandson **Xander Maniaci** graduates with two degrees from Santa Rosa JC and advances to Sonoma State University in January.

Granddaughter **Lexie Watson** welcomed us for a visit to her apartment and tour of the Cal Poly campus.

Not having a car is a blessing in disguise! **Di-onne** takes me shopping and we have a lunch date about every ten days or when the larder is bare!

Love solving the Wordle game first thing in the morning after delivering tea to Marston. My starting word is key to win rate of 98% and an average of solving in 4.016 guesses.

We celebrated Marston's birthday with neighbors **Virginia & Virgilio Cabato** at a Pt. Richmond breakfast restaurant. Good food and good company for his 87th trip around the sun.



Happy New Year